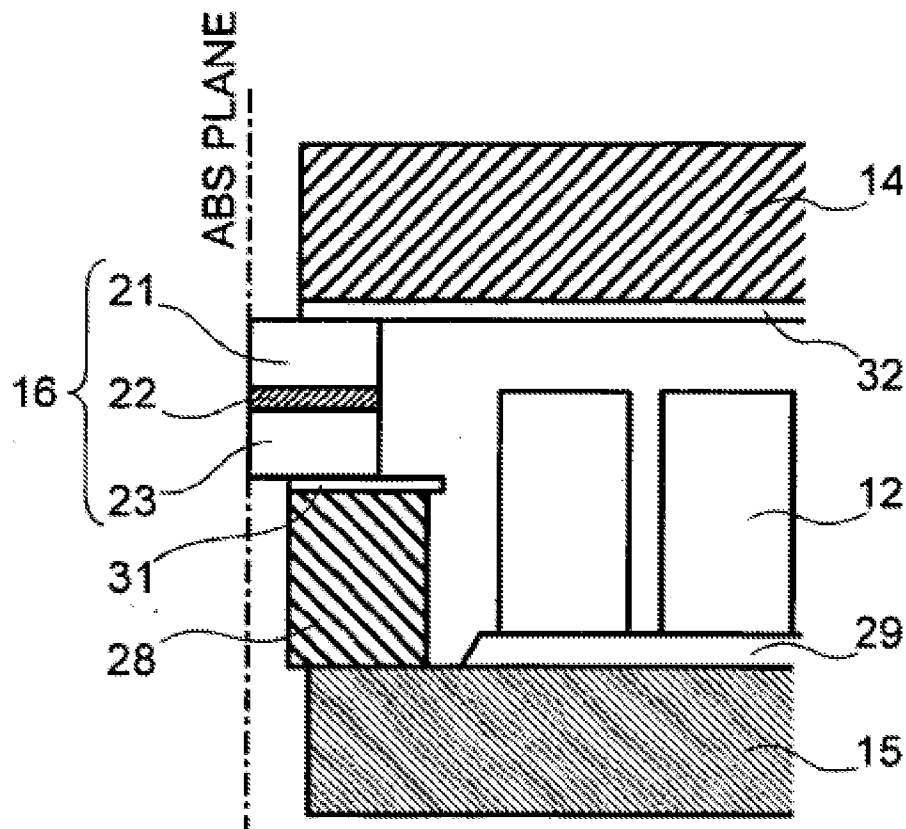


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 5, 12, and 16 are amended by entry of this response. No claims have been canceled or added. Accordingly, following entry of these amendments and remarks, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 13, 16, and 17 will remain pending for examination.

Embodiments of the present invention relate to a magnetic write head used in a disk storage unit. Specifically, as shown in Figure 7A (reproduced below), certain embodiments disclose a non-magnetic film (22) provided between an upper core edge layer (21) and lower core edge layer (23), with the end opposite the air bearing surface (ABS) of the non-magnetic film (22) aligned with the edge of the upper core edge layer (21) and lower core edge layer (23).



Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 recites in part:

1. A magnetic head having a write function, comprising:

The end opposite the ABS (655) of the non-ferromagnetic layer (625) is not aligned with the first pole tip layer (210) and second pole tip layer (640). Rather, the non-ferromagnetic layer (625) continues along the width of the magnetic head, even extending above portions of coil layer (602). As such, the Stoev Patent fails to disclose an instance where the respective layers of the magnetic head structure are aligned in the manner claimed.

Based on the failure of the cited art relied upon by the Examiner to teach, explicitly or even impliedly, all of the elements of the pending claims, it is respectfully asserted that the claims cannot be considered anticipated by that reference. Continued maintenance of the anticipation claim rejections is therefore improper, and the claims rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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